

SUNEDEN NEWS



March 2018

Ph: 8276 3953

www.suneden.sa.edu.au

Parents and Caregivers,

Term one is rapidly coming to a close with Easter nearly upon us. All of the classes are now in full swing with the students busy and engaged throughout the day. On any one week students across the school are involved with literacy & numeracy, cooking, communication tasks, creative play, independence training, fine motor skills groups, table activities, lunch orders, recycling, work experience, music participation, etc. A number of groups run each week too including Strong Boys, Literacy in Motion, Atmospheric, TacPac, Yoga, Sporting Schools, Personal Care and Energy States. And of course there are the activities that occur beyond the school walls including gymnastics, swimming, visits to Belair National Park, Ikea, Seacliff Surf Lifesaving, libraries, shops, Moore St. Homeless shelter, etc. Next Tuesday on 27th March many of our classes will be lucky enough to attend the Variety Club Easter Party at the zoo, another day of enrichment and new experiences. This promises to be another great event courtesy of the Variety Club, a club founded in Sydney in 1975 with a massive heart for young people with special needs.

Such a busy and productive school does not happen without extensive work and planning by all the staff. Just for a behind-the-scenes look at the meetings that occur, they include: Board Meetings, P&F Meetings, Whole School Staff Meetings twice a week, Teachers & Specialist Staff weekly meetings, Specialist Staff Only Weekly Meetings, Class Meetings, Consultative Committee Meetings, Architects Meetings, NEP meetings with all of the families in the school, Suneden TV Meetings and Focus Group Meetings. Each year we choose three different Focus Areas for our staff to explore and then implement their collective ideas into our curriculum. This year the three groups are:

- Be Active Focus Group
- Well-being Focus Group
- Communication Focus Group

I cannot thank the staff at Suneden enough for all their dedication and hard work, not only in the classrooms but behind the scenes too. We are school with a wonderful culture and community spirit.

Parking

At the beginning of this term we approached the Marion Council about signage to restrict the general public's ability to be able to park near the school during busy times, in order to free up more spaces for our families. We have just been informed that signage will be installed within the next few weeks on both sides of the road that will indicate a School Zone parking during pickup & drop off times! We are hopeful that this will help to ease the parking situation, but still as always, we would ask you to be mindful of how busy it can be, particularly in the mornings, and to exercise extra caution and vigilance when parking and when walking with your children.

Sign-in System

Thank you to parents who have adapted well to the new sign-in system. Just to confirm that we would like you to sign your child in or out, only when it is outside of normal pickup or drop-off times. Once again Melanie or Kate in the front office will be happy to assist you with the system at any time.

Staffing

Some of you may already know that Leanne Longfellow has resigned due to health reasons. She has been at Suneden for the last six years working in both the junior and senior end of the school. We wish her well as she focuses on her health and thank her for her input into Suneden over the years. We have been very fortunate that her class, Pathways to Community, has had Nikki Carter step in for the remainder of the term to provide consistency for the students, families and the class programme.

On another staff matter, we are pleased that Catherine Symonds, who has worked as an SSO at Suneden for the last eight years while she obtained her special education teaching qualification, has been able to seamlessly step back into our school this term as a relieving teacher. We are very fortunate indeed. She will be stepping into the role of Tracey Evans for the last three weeks of term while Tracey is on long service leave.

Website & Suneden TV

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, we are in the process of updating our website to make it more contemporary in terms of content and to better reflect the Suneden initiatives including video modelling (eg Suneden 5) and of course Suneden TV. Heidi Payne, who has been instrumental in coordinating these exciting initiatives will soon be sending home a confirmation letter regarding consent for photos or videos that will be used on the school website.

In the mean-time here is a link for last week's episode of Suneden TV available through Vimeo:

<https://vimeo.com/260520879/6bb4072c7e>. We hope you enjoy! Each week at the end of assembly a new episode of Suneden TV is played for the students and staff. Any parents are warmly welcome to stay and watch with us, either from the corridor or please feel free to join us inside the gym if you would prefer.



A reminder that on Sunday April 8th the P&F BBQ will take place in the senior playground from 12 noon – 3pm. It will be a great opportunity to socialize with other parents and staff, and hopefully greet our new families and students in the junior end of the school.

One final reminder that the Annual General Meeting is to be held at Suneden on Tuesday 27th March at 7:30pm and all parents are welcome to attend.

Warm wishes,

Anne